



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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August Ag Prices Received

For immediate release: September 29, 2008

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Montana's August full month crop prices were mostly lower when compared with July 2008, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Montana's winter wheat price was \$7.78 per bushel, down \$0.72, spring wheat went down \$1.73 to \$8.37 per bushel, but durum wheat increased \$1.99 to \$11.90 per bushel. Feed barley decreased \$0.41 to \$3.79 per bushel, but malt barley was up \$0.06 per bushel to \$5.72 from last month.

The mid-September price for alfalfa hay increased \$4.00 per ton from August 2008 to \$132.00, but all other hay fell \$14.00 to \$106.00 per ton. The mid-September grain prices were all lower with the per bushel prices as follows: winter wheat was \$6.99, spring wheat was \$7.84, durum wheat was \$11.00, feed barley was \$3.70, and malt barley was \$5.15.

Livestock prices for the full month of August were mixed when compared with July 2008. Steers and heifers rose \$2.00 to \$103.00 per cwt, cows were down \$3.20 to \$55.90 per cwt, beef cattle jumped \$7.50 to \$92.60 per cwt, and calves were up \$3.00 to \$108.00 per cwt. Sheep prices were down \$8.00 to \$18.00 per cwt, and lambs, at \$101.00 per cwt, were down \$4.00. The all milk price for August was \$20.70 per cwt, up \$1.60.

Mid-month September prices for livestock were mostly higher with the per cwt prices as follows: Steers and heifers were \$105.00, cows were \$51.80, beef cattle were \$99.10, and calves were \$115.00. The mid-month September all milk price was \$19.20 per cwt.

Nationally, prices for August and changes from July were as follows: Winter wheat was \$7.31 per bushel, up \$0.21, spring wheat was \$8.22 per bushel, down \$1.38, durum wheat was \$12.40 per bushel, up \$0.60, feed barley was \$4.55 per bushel, down \$0.15, malt barley was \$5.27 per bushel, up \$0.08, oats were \$3.15 per bushel, down \$0.31, steers and heifers were \$100.00 per cwt, up \$0.40, cows were \$57.40 per cwt, up \$1.00, beef cattle were \$96.10 per cwt, up \$1.00, calves were \$116.00 per cwt, up \$1.00, sheep were \$26.30 per cwt, down \$0.60, lambs were \$99.60 per cwt, down \$3.40, and all milk was \$18.40 per cwt, down \$1.00.

The U.S. mid-September prices are as follows: Winter wheat was \$6.63 per bushel, spring wheat was \$7.38 per bushel, durum wheat was \$11.90 per bushel, all wheat was \$6.91 per bushel, malt barley was \$5.10 per bushel; feed barley was \$4.28 per bushel, oats were \$2.92 per bushel, steers and heifers were \$99.50 per cwt, cows were \$56.00 per cwt, beef cattle were \$94.90 per cwt, calves were \$116.00 per cwt, all milk was \$18.00 per cwt, all hogs were \$53.70 per cwt, and all eggs were \$0.998 per dozen.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September, at 154 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased 2 points (1.3 percent) from August. The Crop Index is down 3 points (1.7 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 3 points (2.2 percent). Producers received lower prices for wheat, hogs, soybeans, and broilers and higher prices for lettuce, turkeys, eggs, and cottonseed. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of soybeans, corn, apples, and potatoes offset decreased marketings of cattle, wheat, broilers, and grapes.

#end#

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Aug 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Aug 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2007	15-Sep-08	15-Sep-08
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	5.53	8.50	7.78	7.31	-0.72	2.25	6.99	6.63
Durum Wheat	Bu	6.64	9.91	11.90	12.40	1.99	5.26	11.00	11.90
Spring Wheat	Bu	5.61	10.10	8.37	8.22	-1.73	2.76	7.84	7.38
All Wheat	Bu	5.60	9.56	7.96	7.64	-1.60	2.36	7.22	6.91
All Barley	Bu	3.59	5.57	5.65	5.11	0.08	2.06	5.09	4.83
Feed Barley	Bu	3.22	4.20	3.79	4.55	-0.41	0.57	3.70	4.28
Malt Barley	Bu	3.65	5.66	5.72	5.27	0.06	2.07	5.15	5.10
Oats	Bu	2.18	na	na	3.15	#VALUE!	#VALUE!	na	2.92
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	80.00	115.00	128.00	180.00	13.00	48.00	132.00	176.00
All Other Hay	Ton	84.00	127.00	120.00	126.00	-7.00	36.00	106.00	122.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	81.00	116.00	127.00	165.00	11.00	46.00	128.00	161.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	102.00	101.00	103.00	100.00	2.00	1.00	105.00	99.50
Cows	Cwt	53.60	59.10	55.90	57.40	-3.20	2.30	51.80	56.00
Beef Cattle 1/	Cwt	94.70	85.10	92.60	96.10	7.50	-2.10	99.10	94.90
Calves	Cwt	122.00	105.00	108.00	116.00	3.00	-14.00	115.00	116.00
Sheep	Cwt	20.00	26.00	18.00	26.30	-8.00	-2.00	na	na
Lambs	Cwt	101.00	105.00	101.00	99.60	-4.00	0.00	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	21.90	19.10	20.70	18.40	1.60	-1.20	19.20	18.00

1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows. na-not available.